



Alumni Columns

Magazine Winter 2010
Northwestern State University of Louisiana





Dr. Randall J. Webb, 1965, 1966
President, Northwestern State University

Dear Alumni:

When I speak to high school students, I tell them that Northwestern State University is in the life changing business. Our faculty, staff and students work together to provide educational opportunities that make people's lives better. But we couldn't do that without the work of several partners and one of the most important partners we have is Bossier Parish Community College.

Under the leadership of former Chancellor Tom Carleton and current Chancellor Jim Henderson, who are both Northwestern graduates, BPCC and NSU have developed a close and mutually beneficial working relationship. This spring, we will honor Mr. Carleton with an honorary doctorate in recognition of his distinguished career as an educator and community leader.

Bossier Parish Community College established a branch on Northwestern campuses in Natchitoches and Leesville-Fort Polk to provide college access to students who did not meet the new admissions standards at Northwestern. These branches called BPCC@NSU have been very successful in giving students the foundation they need to be prepared for a four-year university while providing a full college experience.

Northwestern and BPCC have been partners in the successful Center for All Louisiana Learners (CALL) Program, which encourages adults who started college but did not earn a degree to return and complete their degree. NSU and BPCC piloted this program, and between the two institutions, more than 400 students are enrolled this semester and more than 100 students have received degrees.

The two institutions have also signed agreements for several degree programs that allow BPCC students to transfer to Northwestern without losing any credit hours. This is an excellent example of how BPCC and NSU work together for the benefit of students.

An exciting new collaboration is taking place in the Northwestern and BPCC nursing programs. BPCC recently received a \$1.9 million Title III grant and Northwestern is a major partner in the grant. This five-year program will help the partnering institutions develop ways to strengthen our pre-clinical nursing programs which will provide better opportunities for our nursing students.

As you can see, I have a great sense of pride in the relationship we have developed and I look forward to further opportunities to work together.

Thank you to each of you for all you do to help Northwestern State University.

William Drake Owens, 2004, 2005
Director of Alumni and Development



My fellow alumni,

As last fall's Homecoming festivities came to a close, I could not help but reflect on what a special place Northwestern is to so many people. New traditions, old friends reconnecting and a warm sense of family among alumni, friends and supporters of our university characterized the 2009 Homecoming celebration. It was a wonderful event that brought many visitors back home to Natchitoches.

As you probably know, we have acknowledged Northwestern's 125th anniversary in many ways, not only with exhibits, receptions and events, but also through music and poetry. The Homecoming 5K and luncheon were well received and the Spirit of Northwestern Demon Marching Band's appearances during football tailgating made the experience exceptional. I have been overwhelmed by the enthusiasm that greets me whenever I have the opportunity to visit with alumni. It truly makes me proud to be a Demon.

In order to provide more of you with an opportunity to get involved, the Office of Alumni and Development is organizing formal alumni chapters across the state. We hope these chapters provide a way for alumni and friends in towns large and small to socialize, network, reminisce about their student days and visit with prospective students. If you are interested in starting a chapter in your town, please let us know and we will assist you in any way possible.

I hope that many of you have the opportunity to be a part of the energy and camaraderie that is so prevalent at Northwestern right now. Thanks to you, our devoted alumni, our future has never been brighter. Thank you again for your continued support and best wishes for another great year in 2010.

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Love and romance blossom for alumni

The lyrics of an old song say "Fairy tales do come true, it could happen to you...." Love and romance can bloom at any age and sometimes paths cross in unexpected ways. NSU has played a small role in bringing some youthful lovebirds together who met or reconnected through alumni events.



Jean and Dudley Downing shared their romantic story that began during their undergraduate days in the 1950s.

"I had a big crush on him in 1952 and it was that summer that he brought me home from church, First Baptist in Natchitoches," said Jean, whose maiden name was Edwards and was called "Pete." "We dated off and on during the rest of our time there."

The two were both active in the Baptist Student Union and other campus activities. Dudley was on the Honor Court from 1953-54, serving as Chief Justice while Jean was coed vice president of the student body. Jean graduated in August 1954 and Dudley graduated in January 1955.

"After graduation we lost contact with each other. We both married and raised our families. He had four children and I had two," she said. Dudley's children are Robbie, John Dudley Jr., Johnette and Joanna. Jean's children are Kee and Jay.

Dudley pastored Baptist churches around Louisiana while Jean taught school for 40 years, 39 of those in Texas.

"After a while both our spouses passed away. In May of 2005 Dudley attended a Baker High School reunion in Baton Rouge. Jerry (1955, 1961) and Rose (1956) Epperson were there. Rose gave Dudley my name and address and the next day he called. I was in Louisiana having attended the NSU 50+ luncheon on campus. I called home to check my messages and there he was. I returned his call and, as they say, the rest is history."

The couple maintained a long distance courtship for two years, at-

*Dudley and Jean
Downing*



*Jean Noble Warren
and
Wesley Jackson*



tending several events at NSU. "We were married on June 9, 2007, in Sherman, Texas, at Fairview Baptist Church. My son, Jay Ables, a minister from California, conducted the ceremony. His biggest concern was what to call me, so, he said, 'Mother, do you take this man....' A couple of grandchildren served as attendants. There were five friends from our Northwestern days there. They were Lady Jane Patton, Byron McCain, Bob Tatum, and Gene and Earl Haynes. It was a glorious day."

After the marriage, Jean moved from Sherman to Harvey, where Dudley still works in ministry.

"We can say, along with everybody else we knew then, that our years at Northwestern were the happiest of our lives," Jean said.



Jacquelyn Jackson, daughter of Wesley Jackson (1954) and Jean Noble Warren (1955) shared the story of her father and his sweetheart.

Wesley was a journalism major at Northwestern, back from the Korean War, while Jean was an education major. Neither knew the other until they met at a New Orleans alumni gathering in April 2008, more than half a century after their undergraduate days. The meeting of the two, both widowed, began an inseparable friendship.

Wes, who retired in 1988 after 34 years as a staff writer and editor at the Times Picayune, and Jean, who taught elementary schools in Baton Rouge and Kenner for 32 years, were at the same table at the NSU gathering at Andrea's restaurant in Metairie, along with her son, Roger Jr. They struck up a conversation, as both knew lots of Northwestern students from the 1950s.

The result was a series of dates and their present relationship.

During his 1953-54 senior year at Northwestern, Wes met and married New Orleans education major, Frances Claffee, also a senior, who died in 1958 from malignant melanoma. The couple had two children, daughter Jacquelyn and son Charles, both raised by relatives who also raised Wes after his parents divorced in New York City and he ended up with his father's family in Leesville.

Wes remarried in 1960 and his second wife, Beverly, died in 1976 after a heart attack.

Jean married Roger Warren in 1960 and has four daughters, Karen, Elizabeth, Sheri and Mary, and a son Roger Jr. Her husband died after a 1980 heart attack.

While at NSC, Jean was a student body coed vice-president, a member of Sigma Sigma Sigma sorority and was a Hall of Fame student in the

Meet the Excellence Campaign Co-Chairs



John and Lynne Manno

A successful capital campaign depends on its leaders. These alumni are giving like never before, with their time and dedication, as well as their contributions. We would like to thank them for their service to NSU.

Co-chairs John and Lynne Manno have made NSU a family tradition. Not only did they both attend Northwestern, but their children have, as well. John is vice president and co-owner of Southland Printing Company. He is a member of the Long Purple Line, NSU's Hall of Distinction, and serves on the NSU Foundation Board of Directors. He and Lynne are also supporters of NSU Athletics and have established several scholarships. The Mannos are very involved in the Shreveport/Bossier communities as



Ted and Carmen Jones

well.

Assisting John and Lynne are honorary chairs Ted and Carmen Jones, Joe and Milo Dow and Bryant and Heloise Lewis. While they all have very different backgrounds, their love for and support of NSU through the years ties them together.

Through a long career in law and public service, Ted Jones has put his education at Northwestern to good work. He has served as Chief of Staff to U.S. Representative Speedy O. Long, Special Counsel to Gov. John McKeithen and Counsel for Governmental Affairs to the State of Louisiana for Govs. McKeithen and Edwin Edwards. He was inducted into the Long Purple Line in 2003 and received the honorary doctorate of humane letters from NSU in 2005. His



Joe and Milo Dow

wife, Carmen, was selected Mrs. Louisiana in 1985 and was made an honorary alumna in 2009. Ted and Carmen award several scholarships each year to incoming freshmen.

Joe Dow came to NSU from Syria in the 1960s. He studied math as a student, but began installing and building fences after class. He turned that experience into creating Dow Pipe and Fence Supply, one of the largest wholesale fence companies in the country. He was inducted into the Long Purple Line in 2004 and received the honorary doctor of humane letters in 2008. Joe and his wife, Milo, generously donated the materials to construct the gates at several entrances to Northwestern's Natchitoches campus and have also endowed a scholarship. Milo became



Bryant and Heloise Lewis

an honorary alumna of NSU in the fall of 2009.

Bryant Lewis has enjoyed a very successful business career as owner and operator of Magnolia Pulpwood Company. Bryant is a past Louisiana Forestry Commissioner. He has stayed connected to NSU by serving on the Alumni Association Board of Directors. Bryant was inducted into the Long Purple Line in 2007. He and his wife, Heloise, established the Bryant and Heloise Lewis Endowed Professorship in Business and an endowed scholarship.

To contribute to the Excellence: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow capital campaign, contact the Alumni Center at (318) 357-4414 or go to www.northwesternalumni.com/excellence.

♥ Love and Romance...Continued from Page

1955 Potpourri. She was president of Future Teachers of America and Interdenominational Council.

Wes, who was 15 when he enrolled at NSU, was a Current Sauce sports editor and played in the marching and concert bands and the Demonaires dance band. He also won a literary award in his senior year. As a journalist, he was a reporter, photographer and religion editor and his by lines emanated from some 80 U.S.

cities as well as Israel, Canada and Mexico. He also wrote color stories for 21 Sugar Bowls and four Super Bowls. His 54-part series in the 1970s-80s is the only known history of religion in Louisiana.

For both septuagenarians (Wes is 76 and Jean is 75) the fairy tale romance of the Manhattan- and Mangham-born duo, who graduated from high schools in Leesville and Winnsboro respectively, (1948 and

1951), turned out to be an unexpected highlight, thanks to a Northwestern State alumni event.

"We are still very much a couple, moreso and moreso," Wes said.

"My dad and Jean are like two young kids in love," Jacquelyn said. "They are very happy together and it is true love. That makes it all the better."



Homecoming 2009 - A 125 Celebration



Dozens of enthusiastic participants made the Homecoming Golf Tournament a success.



Tom Paul (1943) and Maxine (1942) South-erland were among the honored guests at the Long Purple Line reunion.



Lyn Hargrave (1966, 1968), Dr. Thomas Hennigan (1951) and Thomas C. Hennigan (1982) were among the attendees at the Long Purple Line reception.



Phillip Hattaway was first place winner in the 2009 Homecoming 5k Fun Run/Walk, which wound through the NSU campus. Hattaway's time was 19:39:47.



The Sutton family, descendants of Capt. Leopold Caspari, a founding father of Northwestern, were among the guests at the NSU-125 luncheon, held at the Natchitoches Events Center. From left are Ellen Donaldson, Kerlin (1948) and Margaret (1947) Sutton, Thomas Mark Donaldson (partially hidden), Marshall Sutton, Jonathan Donaldson and Mark Sutton (1976).

Poem incorporates campus ghost story into 125 anniversary

ne of the enduring campus traditions at Northwestern State University is the story of Isabella, the campus ghost.

Professor of English Julie Kane has linked the story of Isabella with Northwestern's history in a ballad written for the University's 125th anniversary celebration. Kane read *The Ballad of Isabella* at the Homecoming luncheon last fall.

"I was looking for a way to pull together 125 years of history," said Kane, a nationally acclaimed poet, who has been a faculty member at Northwestern for 10 years. "I read the 125th anniversary book and Dr. Marietta LeBretton's book on the history of Northwestern and spent some time in the Cammie Henry archives. As I did my research, I kept my focus on Isabella."

According to legend, Isabella lived before the Civil War. At one time she was in love with a young man who was killed in a duel of honor. She became a nun and lived in Bullard Mansion which was on the current site of Northwestern. Isabella was a recluse who only came out at night to talk to her lover. Following a violent storm, she stabbed herself through the heart with a knife, leaving a bloody handprint the wall. Tradition says that she



Julie Kane

leaves a bloody handprint on the wall or door of every building in which she resides.

Isabella is said to inhabit the oldest building on Northwestern's campus which is Nelson Hall, the home of the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training. The building, which is the former Women's

Gymnasium, was built in 1923.

In 1904, she was moved from Bullard Mansion when it was torn down to East Hall. Isabella was moved in 1926 from the site of the demolished East Hall to the music education building. When that building was torn down in 1948, Isabella was escorted to Caldwell Hall where she stayed until the 1982 move to Nelson Hall after Caldwell Hall was destroyed in a fire. A ceremony was held in 2001 to welcome Isabella to the rehabilitated Nelson Hall.

"In the ballad, I bring in how the campus and its mission has changed. Northwestern students adopted Isabella as a symbol of the university," said Kane.

SPOTLIGHTS

★ **Carl Wright (1974)** has joined Techmer PM as site manager of the Dalton, Ga., fiber facility.

Wright graduated from NSU with a degree in math and physics. "Carl brings more than 30 years of industry experience and a history of technical leadership and product innovation," said John Manuck, Techmer PM president and CEO.

Techmer PM's Dalton Fiber Center designs and produces custom color masterbatch for the fibers industry. It opened in May 2008 and includes a new custom color development center. Built with designers and manufacturing in mind, the center provides fast turnaround of color matches and the ability to supply everything from a visual representation (pom or yarn card wrap) to a full, texturized package of yarn that is ready for twisting, tufting or weaving.

The center is one of six Techmer manufacturing facilities in the U.S. The others are Avon, Ohio; Clinton, Tenn.; Rancho Dominguez, Calif.; Naperville, Ill.; and Wichita, Kan.

★ **Dr. Derwood Duke (1974)** was named Natchitoches Parish School District superintendent earlier this year. An educator for the last 50 years, Duke's titles have included coach, teacher, principal and superintendent. From 1997-2004, he was an associate professor of educational leadership at NSU. A native of Shongaloo, Duke earned a B.S. in physical education with a minor in math at the University of Southwestern Louisiana in 1959, a master's in education administration with a minor in physical education from USL in 1959 and his doctoral in education with emphasis in physical education and a minor in administration from NSU.

Duke has been married for 51 years to Ann Gibson. The couple has three children and six grandchildren.

★ **Steve Mathies (1976)**, a former director of the Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program, has been hired to oversee the office that does work directed and funded through the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority. A native of St. Tammany Parish, Mathies received bachelor's and master's degrees from Northwestern and a doctorate from Mississippi State University in botany. He has worked as a natural resource specialist for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and is a former assistant secretary for the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources.

★ **Josh Fosdick (1997)** was named assistant coach for both the men's and women's golf squads at Oklahoma State University. Fosdick spent the previous two years as head coach of the boys' program at Edmond (Okla.) Memorial High School. In his two seasons, the Bulldogs finished in the top 10 in eight of their nine tournaments and posted top-10 finishes each year at the Class 6A State Tournament. In 2008, he was named the Region 8 Coach of the Year. Off the course, both of his squads were honored with academic achievement awards for overall grade point average. Fosdick was a three-year letterwinner for the Demons. He also served as team captain for NSU as a senior. Fosdick continued his education at Oklahoma State where he completed graduate level work in organic chemistry. Fosdick served as an assistant golf professional at three different golf courses before embarking upon a professional playing career in 2003. The Casper, Wyo., native competed on the NGA Hooters Tour for two seasons, posting several top-10 finishes during the 2003 and 2004 seasons.

★ **David Gunn (2001, 2005)** has been appointed advisor to the Student Government Association at Loyola University, where he is director of co-curricular activities. In a feature article in *The Maroon*, Loyola's newspaper, Gunn credited his experience at NSU as the reason for following a career in higher education. At NSU, Gunn majored in political science and initially planned to go to law school until he became president of NSU's SGA, finding, he said, his identity as a college student. He worked as an adviser to the student government at Louisiana State University for 3-1/2 years before joining the staff at Loyola. Gunn will also be taking over as adviser of Interfraternity Council. As a Sigma Nu fraternity member, Gunn is hoping his past experiences will also help in his role as adviser for IFC.

★ Louisiana Governor Bobby Jindal announced the appointment of **Edmund Antie (1976)** to the Louisiana Information Technology Advisory Board last September. The Louisiana Information Technology Advisory Board serves to examine emerging technologies and advise the chief information officer on the use of information technology. The board is comprised of five at-large gubernatorial appointments and each statewide elected official, other than the governor,

or their designees. The board includes the President of the Senate or their designee, the Speaker of the House of Representatives or their designee, the Chief Justice or their designee, one representative from the Office of the Governor, one representative from postsecondary education selected from recommendations submitted by the Louisiana Postsecondary Education Information Technology Council and the CEO of each department within the scope of authority of the office of information technology.

Antie, of Lafayette, is the managing partner for Network USA, a telecommunications company, and a member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers. Antie will serve as an at-large gubernatorial appointee, as required by statute. He is a graduate of Northwestern's Computer Information Systems program.

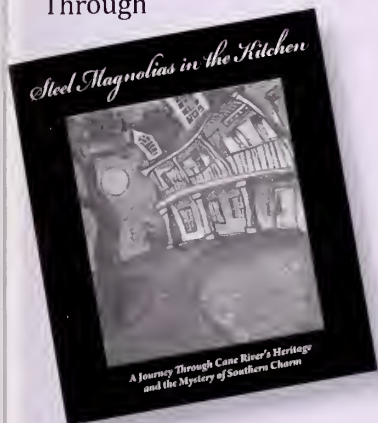
★ **Dr. David B. Williams (1965, 1966)** was elected president of The College Music Society. Dr. Williams has been an instrumental part of this international organization for over 30 years. He assumed the position of president-elect beginning January 2010 and will become president in January 2011. Williams is Professor Emeritus of Music and Arts Technology at Illinois State University where he served on the faculty for 30 years. He has also taught at the University of Guam, University of Washington, and California State University Los Angeles. He is co-author of the textbook, *Experiencing Music Technology* (Cengage Learning/Schirmer), now in its fourth edition. David is married to **Kay Owens Williams (1965)** who was a member of Purple Jackets.

★ **Retired U.S. Army Gen. Brig. Gen. James K. Corley (1958, 1960)** was inducted into the Bossier High School Hall of Fame last October. Inductees must have been students or faculty members at Bossier High and gone on to make a significant contribution in their fields and society as a whole. Corley, a faculty inductee, served as principal from 1980-84 and in the Bossier Parish School System from 1960-84. He served in the Louisiana Army National Guard beginning in 1956 and rose through the ranks, eventually commanding the 256th Infantry Brigade. Corley later served as chief of staff for the Louisiana National Guard.

★ **Jimmy Barnhill (1970)** was mentioned in an article entitled "CSI: Louisiana" that

Faculty and alumni contribute to Service League cookbook

The Service League of Natchitoches, Inc. has released their third cookbook, *Steel Magnolias in the Kitchen*, "A Journey Through



Cane River's Heritage and the Mystery of Southern Charm." This book follows the award-winning Cane River Cuisine and Cane River's Louisiana Living.

Contributions to the book come from many NSU alumni, as well as current and former faculty and staff. A painting by NSU alumnus Patrick Hollier was chosen for the cover design.

The new cookbook commemorates and celebrates what it means

to be a "Steel Magnolia," the combination of strength and charm that defines women of the Natchitoches area past and present. Noted area chefs, as well as members and other great cooks, contributed over 700 recipes that were double-tested before final selection for inclusion in the book. These recipes were chosen because they represent the unique blend of flavors, cultures and traditions that define Natchitoches updated to

reflect how the modern woman cooks.

The Service League supports scholarships that benefit NSU students, the Marsha Thomas Pendleton Scholarship, the Shirley Pittman Smiley Scholarship and the Anna Cloutier Harrington Scholarship.

The book is now on sale at area vendors as well as on line at <http://www.service-league.net> or from League members. For additional information, call (318) 352-6723.

appeared in SB Magazine, a monthly publication that highlights features and news in the Shreveport/Bossier area. Barnhill is system director at the North Louisiana Crime Lab, home of Shreveport/Bossier's forensic investigations. In the article, Barnhill described the lab's functions in analyzing evidence that helps identify perpetrators or enhance evidence useful in investigations, including drug identification, firearm identification and DNA analysis. Barnhill's interview, as well as those of his colleagues, dispelled many myths perpetuated by television crime dramas. He also advised young people interested in forensic science careers to pursue degrees in chemistry, biochemistry, microbiology, genetics or molecular genetics.

John Delphen (1982) designer/owner of Delphen's Drafting of Baton Rouge was honored recently by the New Orleans Historic District Landmarks Commission for his design drawings to restore the home located at 5116 Chartres Street.

The awards ceremony, held at the New Orleans City Council chamber last October, recognized home designers and architects for work in new construction, renovation, and restoration in New Orleans historic areas.

The Chartres Street home was in such a state of decay that the architectural style was unrecognizable by most and had been slated for demolition by the city. Delphen's award is one of only 35 that have been awarded in the last 4 years. Delphen has been studying historic houses for over 30 years and uses yearly vacation travel as an opportunity to

study various architectural styles prominent around the United States.

John grew up in Natchitoches, and is a graduate of Natchitoches Central High School and NSU.

Jessica Holly Willrodt (1995) has joined WGNO-TV in New Orleans as a co-anchor of ABC 26 News at 5 and 10 p.m. She is also anchoring NOLA 38 News at 9 p.m. on WNOL-TV. Tribune Television New Orleans Vice President / General Manager Phil Waterman made the announcement last fall stating, "Jessica is a great journalist and communicator. She understands Louisiana and the issues we face living here. We're very happy to add her experience and leadership to the ABC 26 News team."

Jessica is returning after an award winning career at WKRQ in Mobile, KIII in Corpus Christi, KLFY in Lafayette, and KALB in Alexandria. As a veteran Gulf Coast journalist, Jessica has covered many hurricanes and tropical storms.

Cindy Chapman (1988) is the site manager for the Twin Cities momslikeme.com and national spokesperson for the site, a network for mothers seeking support, tips and advice about child-rearing. The Twin Cities site recently made national news when one of the moms gave birth live on the site.

Navy Seaman Shannon L. Richterberg (2006) completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes,

Ill. During the 8-week program, Richterberg completed a variety of training which included classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, firefighting, water safety and survival and shipboard and aircraft safety. An emphasis was also placed on physical fitness. The capstone event of boot camp is Battle Stations, an exercise that gives recruits the skills and confidence they need to succeed in the fleet. Battle Stations is designed to galvanize the basic warrior attributes of sacrifice, dedication, teamwork and endurance in each recruit through the application of basic Navy skills and the core values of honor, courage and commitment. Its distinctly Navy flavor was designed to take into account what it means to be a sailor.

Friendships that began a lifetime ago were renewed in May 2009 when the Waterproof High School Class of 1953 held their annual reunion at the home of **Dan and Lilly Chase** in Baton Rouge. Although most high school classes consider themselves special, this one is unique in that six of the seven graduates continued their education at Northwestern State College pursuing careers as a dentist, teacher, teacher/administrator, coach and highly successful businessman, biologist and college professor. All are now retired. In 2010, **Alma Rabb Alost, Dan Chase, Joe Cornett, Harry Goodfellow, Irene Trevillion Lee** and **Mervin Wampold** are planning to get together once more.

Alumnus saved by new medical technology

NSU alumnus Bill O'Bannon was given another chance at life when the world's tiniest heart pump saved his life last year. O'Bannon, who graduated with a business administration degree in 1960, was saved by the Impella Cardiac Assist Device. His son, Derron (1988), a former Vic the Demon, wanted to share his father's story.

Bill, who has worked as a self-employed insurance adjuster in Natchitoches for many years, had his first heart attack in the early 1990s and was not expected to recover. Last summer, he began having chest pains while cutting grass. A short time later, another episode sent him to ICU and he was flown to Ochsner Hospital in New Orleans. In the Critical Care Unit, he suffered another episode in which his blood pressure

dropped and his color disappeared in a matter of minutes. By coincidence, a representative from the company that developed the Impella device was at Ochsner, training hospital staff how to use it. The device works by temporarily relieving the heart's pumping function, providing the time needed to allow the heart to rest and recover.

The team of doctors quickly inserted the catheter-based device through Bill's leg and it immediately began doing the work of Bill's heart. Soon, Bill was back in his hospital room, stabilized and talking.

Before the device was removed five days later, he had become a small celebrity at the hospital, visited by staff and doctors in training intrigued by the hospital's first patient to receive the new treatment. His children began calling him Im-

pella Man, Derron said. Derron also praised the quality of care his father received at Ochsner, with off-duty doctors and nurses calling to check on him, even after his discharge.

After its removal, Bill kept his Impella device as a trophy to show his coffee buddies. He was advised to resume reasonable physical activities and went back to work.

Derron praised his father's fortitude, work ethic and sacrifices he made in his life for his children. After his wife's death in 1982, Bill raised his three children, Derron, DeWayne and Denise, never taking time off work.

He is now able to enjoy life with his significant other, Laverne Chambers, and their children and grandchildren. He also cares for his uncle, E.E. McLaren.

Strother receives honorary degree at Fall Commencement



Raymond Strother

Northwestern State University awarded an honorary doctorate of humane letters to political strategist and author Raymond Strother at its Fall Commencement Exercises in December. Strother spoke to graduates at both ceremonies as he received the honors.

Strother attended Northwestern on a track scholarship and lettered two years. He transferred to LSU where he became advertising director and then editor of the *Daily Reveille*. While attending LSU he was the night reporter and photographer for the Associated Press. His master's thesis written in 1965 (*The Political Candidate and the Advertising Organization*) predicted that media and not organization would dominate future political campaigns. He was correct until Barack Obama's 2008 presidential campaign.

Strother has been the media producer and consultant for dozens of U. S. Senators and scores of House members. He worked on the presidential campaigns of both Gary Hart and Al Gore. Strother has produced media for sixteen gubernatorial campaigns including four for Bill

Clinton. He worked in the Vice Presidential and Senate campaigns for Sen. Lloyd Bentsen. He has won awards for long form documentaries for civil rights hero, John Lewis and Bentsen.

Strother is in the Long Purple Line at NSU and the LSU Journalism Hall of Fame. He served as both president and chairman of the board of the American Association of Political Consultants and in 1999 was a resident fellow at the Institute of Politics at Harvard University. In 2004, he was named the first honorary Fellow at the University of Akron. In Nov. 2007, an exhibit depicting his life was dedicated in the Hall of Notable People in the Gulf Coast Museum. In 2008 he was inducted into the American Association of Political Consultants Hall of Fame. That year he was a Fellow at the Dole Institute of Politics at the University of Kansas. He held the Erbon W. and Marie Wise Endowed Chair in Journalism at Northwestern in 2007-08 and 2008-09.

E. P. Dutton published his novel, *Cottonwood*, about a political consultant who loses his soul and in 2004, his best selling autobiography, *Falling Up*, was published. Strother is a frequent commentator on network television and was an analyst in 2000 on the Vice Presidential Debates for PBS. He has written for *Newsweek*, the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Atlanta Constitution* and scores of other publications.

Strother and his wife, Sandy live in Bozeman, Mont.

Six members of the NSU faculty were recognized with Excellence in Teaching awards last fall, based on scholarship, leadership and service to their colleges. From left are Lyndsey Miller and Drake Owens, Alumni Affairs; NSU President Dr. Randall J. Webb, and honorees Bill Shaw, College of Liberal Arts; Dr. Margaret Kilcoyne, College of Business; Dr. Ron McBride, College of Education; Dr. Rondo Keele, Louisiana Scholars' College; Renee Downey, College of Nursing, and Dr. Sonia Tinsley, College of Science and Technology.



Northwestern State University bestowed the honor of Professor Emeritus on Dr. William Dennis of Natchitoches, center, who served in NSU's Department of Engineering Technology from 1972 until his retirement in 2003. Congratulating Dennis were Dr. Austin Temple, dean of the College of Science and Technology, left, and Dr. Tom Hall, current head of the Department of Engineer Technology.

Alumni-sponsored counselor lunches help attract students

Northwestern alumni generously supported recruiting efforts by hosting lunches across the state for high school guidance counselors and principals. During the luncheons, counselors were greeted by recruiters, deans and department heads and presented with information about Northwestern's areas of excellence and the school's newest innovations.

"We had a great response," said Director of Recruiting Jana Lucky.

"This is the perfect way to distribute information to these guidance counselors, who are the gateway to the students. These counselors set up visits that allow our recruiters in the schools to visit with students and parents. Without our alumni sponsoring these luncheons, they would not be possible."

The counselors were given scholarship information and other materials to pass along to their students.

Hosts for the lunches were Frank Marino with Atmos Energy at Impastato's in New Orleans, William and Ann Haile and Al and Margarete Moreau with Moreau Physical Therapy at the Baton Rouge Country Club, Cheryl Wilson with Rapides General Medical Center at Tunk's Cypress Inn in Alexandria, and Mike Knotts at the University Club in Shreveport.



Members and spouses of the N Club gathered at Griffin's Lodge on Toledo Bend Lake for a Christmas gathering hosted by Dan Dyess. Attending were, seated from left, Opal Gaspard, Yvone Alost, Vera Bonnette, Nelda Emmons, Bettie Ledet, Delores Fuller, Bettie Bruning, Shirley Turner, Sue Sibley, Nancy Underwood, Nell Harlen, Pat Kelly, Liz Simmons, Babe Cole, Sidney Bankston and Johnnie Marshall. On the back row are Sonny Fuller, Donnie Kelly, Bobby Alost, Walter Ledet, Doc Bankston, Johnny Haynes, Jim Turner, Earl Haynes, Steve Cole, M.N. Ray, Jim Brewnan, Johnny Emmons, Tousey Wagoner, Roy Underwood, Rev. James Poole, Johnnie Jackson, Dan Simmons, Sam Ruben and Tyrus Sibley.

Foundation News

A rhetoric and debate professorship established by a Northwestern State University alumnus has been fulfilled, and its benefactor plans to lead a fund raising campaign for a second professorship to honor a distinguished former NSU professor and debate coach, Dr. Ralph Ropp, who was later President of Louisiana Tech University.



Ted Roberts

The Theodore Harris Roberts Professorship was created by Ted Roberts, a 1949 NSU graduate. Roberts is the retired President of LaSalle National Corporation, a \$100 billion Chicago bank holding company. During a 50-year banking career he was also executive vice president of one of Chicago's largest commercial banks, president of a Federal Reserve Bank and chairman of Chicago's largest savings bank. A native of Zwolle, he earned a degree in government from NSU, a masters in political science from Oklahoma State University and attended the Graduate School of Business at the University of Chicago.

Roberts is a long-time member of the NSU President's Council, was named a distinguished alumnus and inducted into NSU's Long Purple Line, the university's hall of distinction, in 1996. He was commencement speaker in 1998.

Roberts resides in Lake Forest, Ill., a Chicago suburb, with his wife

Elisabeth. They have three adult children and eight grandchildren.

Roberts urges all former debaters to contribute to the proposed professorship honoring Dr. Ropp. For further details, contact NSU's Office of Alumni and Development at (318) 357-4414.

The NSU Foundation received a gift of \$5,000 from Chesapeake Energy to establish student scholarships.

Five Northwestern students will receive \$500 scholarships in the fall and spring semesters.

Students receiving the Chesapeake Energy Scholarship must be either a sophomore or junior with a grade point average of at least 2.75.

Headquartered in Oklahoma City, Chesapeake Energy is one of the largest producers of natural gas in the nation and the most active driller of new wells in the U.S. The company is active in the Haynesville Shale of east Texas and northwestern Louisiana.

Lovell Willis of Natchitoches has been selected as the 2009 winner of the Norman Taylor Dowty Scholarship at Northwestern State University. Willis is a junior broadcast journalism major and is in the Army ROTC program at Northwestern.

Dowty, a graduate of Bolton High School in Alexandria attended Northwestern where he was editor of the student newspaper, the Current Sauce, and was involved with speech and debate. He left Northwestern to join the Naval Air Corps and was trained as a Naval pilot before the bombing of Pearl Harbor. He married Rivers Rhodes of Natchitoches in August 1942. In March of 1944, a U.S. Naval task force destroyed two enemy submarines in the North Atlantic, and Dowty, a Navy pilot, had a leading role in both. He left behind his wife and an infant daughter.

"I am humbled to receive an award named after a hero like Lt.

(j.g.) Dowty," said Willis. "It means a great deal to me to have this association with him. I am thankful to the family of Lt. j.g. Dowty for providing this scholarship and to those who selected me."

Willis, a graduate of Natchitoches Central High School, had planned to enter the Navy after high school.

Willis' ambition is to become a sportscaster for ESPN. He thinks being an ROTC Cadet combined with the experience he is getting in Northwestern's journalism program can help him achieve that lofty goal. Willis has been involved in the twice-weekly news broadcast on Northwestern's local cable channel NSU 22.

The Norman Taylor Dowty Scholarship is awarded to a student based on creativity and achievement in journalism, the arts, humanities or the sciences. Recipients must have sophomore, junior or returning senior status at the time of selection. The scholarship is awarded by a university committee, based upon recommendations from department heads in the College of Liberal Arts and the College of Science and Technology who have identified deserving candidates.

The Foundation received a gift of \$550,000 from the estate of DeRidder businessman Richard Davis.

Davis, who died in 2006, left proceeds of \$550,000 from timberland in Beauregard Parish to the Foundation. The donation is one of the largest individual gifts given to the university in its 125-year history. The money will be endowed to create student scholarships.

Davis' father Richard "Rough and Ready" Davis was a baseball and track letterman at Louisiana State Normal School (now Northwestern State). It was his intention to leave this money to NSU to assist students from Vernon and Beauregard Parish,



The NSU Foundation received a donation from the estate of the late Richard Davis to create student scholarship. From left are NSU Athletic Director Greg Burke, Director of Alumni and Development Drake Owens, Davis' attorney Erica Anderson and Dr. William Broussard.

including student-athletes since his father competed for Louisiana State Normal School.

Six \$5,000 scholarships will be awarded this year with three \$5,000 scholarships being awarded to student-athletes and three \$5,000 scholarships presented to students with at least a 3.0 grade point average from Beauregard or Vernon Parish.

Northwestern's athletic program will receive \$300,000 to create endowed scholarships with \$220,000 going to the NSU Foundation.

The Foundation will use \$100,000 to create an endowed scholarship fund and \$120,000 will be used to create two First Generation Endowed Scholarships. The initial First Generation Endowed Scholarship should receive \$40,000 in matching funds in 2010 and the second should be matched in 2012. Students with at least a 3.0 grade point average from Beauregard or Vernon Parish will qualify for the

scholarship.

Davis worked in timber management. He was a graduate of DeRidder High School and taught at LaGrange High School. He served in the Airborne Unit 256th and instructed the Brigade National Guard in Lake Charles. He was the Third Battalion Security Officer, General Aide in the 256th and Captain Communications Officer in the Reserved Officers Pool. He finished third at the 1990 National Tae Kwon Do tournament. Davis received the honor Outstanding Bean Farmer of the Year. He was past vice president of the Jaycees, a member of the Kiwanis Club, served on the Federal Land Bank Board of Directors and City Savings Bank Advisory Board. He was a charter member of the Beauregard Parish Airport Commission and treasurer of AUSA at Fort Polk. He was a member of the First Baptist Church of DeRidder.



Albert Dunn of Leesville has established two scholarships at Northwestern State University. Dunn donated \$40,000 to the NSU Foundation to set up The Albert J., Jerri H., and David S. Dunn Scholarship in Education and The Albert J., Jerri H., and David S. Dunn Scholarship in Industrial Engineering Technology. The scholarships also honor his late wife Jerri, a 1950 graduate of Northwestern, and late son David, a 1983 graduate of Northwestern.

Both scholarships were endowed with a donation of \$20,000. Each scholarship is for four years. The

recipient must be a Vernon Parish High School student that maintains a 2.0 GPA, meets classroom attendance requirements and demonstrates financial need. Preference for the education scholarship will be for a history education or English education major.

"All three of us attended Northwestern," said Albert Dunn. "I had read about other scholarships being established and decided to do something that would help others."

Dunn, a native of Slagle, served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He was later stationed in the Philippines, Korea and Japan. After being discharged, he entered Northwestern in 1947.

"A bunch of us guys were standing around talking about what we were going to do and a friend said, 'I'm going to go to Northwestern.' I decided to go with him," said Dunn.

Dunn majored in pre-engineering and was on the track team in 1947. Northwestern did not have an engineering major, so he had to transfer to complete his degree in civil engineering. Dunn worked for McDermott International, and then got a job with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development. He worked as an engineer for 41 years at positions around the state, retiring in 1995. The Department of Transportation and Development honored him with induction into its Hall of Honor in 1998.

continued on page 10



Euzelia Bumgardner Chase made a donation of \$5,000 to the NSU Foundation to set up the U.Z. and Jeroline Bumgardner Memorial Scholarship at Northwestern State University. She has pledged an additional donation of \$5,000 next year. Shown, from left are daughter Deborah Chase Watts, Euzelia Bumgardner Chase, Assistant Director of Development Jill Bankston and daughter Jane Chase Green.

Foundation news continued

Dale Bernard (1953) established an athletic scholarship endowment honoring his twin brothers, whose support and encouragement were instrumental in his pursuit of a college degree. The Henry and Hugh Bernard Athletic Scholarship honors Bernard's deceased brothers, who helped him through college after their father, a barber, suffered a stroke. The Bernard family had 10 children.

In 2010, he plans to establish a scholarship in the College of Business in the names of his two sisters, the late Esther Bernard Reed and Melba Bernard Allison, who attended Louisiana Normal, the university's name until 1944.



Family members present for the announcement of the Bernard Scholarship were, from left, Emma Pitcher Bernard, John Bernard, Dale Bernard, Barry Bernard, Rita Bernard and Louie Bernard.



Lyndsey Gorski Miller (2007) and Antonio "Tony" Hernandez (1982) have joined the staff in the Office of Alumni and Development. Miller is the assistant director of Alumni Affairs. She is a former NSU softball player and her husband Phillip is an assistant baseball coach. Hernandez is assistant director of Institutional Advancement. As a student, he was a member of Kappa Sigma.

Alumni Gatherings

Cenla Gathering



Jo Weaver (1968,1995), Don Wilburn, Velma Wilburn (1959), and Walter Weaver (1963,1996) enjoyed catching up at the Cenla gathering.



Ray Gill (1993), Justin Flynn (2007), Mary Tarver (1991), Matt Tarver, Tori Flynn (1997) and Kasey Gill (1997) attended the Cenla gathering at Tunk's Cypress Inn on Nov. 12.

Winnfield Reception



Guests attending the Winnfield Alumni and Recruiting reception and reunion were Mrs. Jane Purser and family, as well as Bobby Guin, Tom May, Jennie May, David Christman and Betty Christman.



Natchitoches Gathering



Attending the Natchitoches After Hours social were Rex Britt, Tish McKnight, Liz Gresham and DeWitt Booty.



Tommy Chester, Joe Stamey, Richard Gill and Mike Prudhomme were among the guests at the Natchitoches event.

If you are interested in organizing an NSU Alumni Chapter in your area, contact the Alumni Center.

Northwestern Receives \$200,000 in Matching Funds

Northwestern received \$200,000 in matching funds from the Louisiana Board of Regents last fall to complete four endowed professorships and an endowed scholarship. Board of Regents member Scott Brame of Alexandria made the presentation on behalf of the board to Northwestern President Dr. Randall J. Webb.

The matching money came from the Board of Regents Support Fund and allowed NSU to complete the Clifton M. Alford Endowed Professorship in Music, the Kenneth I. Durr Endowed Professorship in Accounting, the Poindexter Foundation Endowed Professorship in Business #2, the J. Dudley Talbot, M.D. Endowed Professorship in Nursing and the Clifton M. Alford First Generation Endowed Scholarship. The professorships and scholarship are each worth \$100,000. Interest generated by the endowed professorships will fund faculty research and development along with needed equipment.

The Alford First Generation Endowed Scholarship will be awarded to a Louisiana resident whose parents or legal guardians have not earned a college degree. The recipient must be awarded a Pell Grant and have been admitted to Northwestern. Alford, who passed away in 2007, did not attend Northwestern but had high regard for the institution. A niece, Elizabeth Leo Whitney, graduated from Northwestern in 1952 and Alford believed the education she received enabled Whitney to endure difficult financial circumstances and raise her family.

A native of Bellwood, Alford graduated from Provencal High School, then served in the U.S. Army for several years. He then began a long career with Armco Steel, working in Houston, then in Schulenburg, Texas, where he would live for the rest of his life. Alford left a gift of \$163,297 to the Northwestern State University Foundation and the matching funds created a total gift of \$243,297.

Talbot was instrumental in forming the obstetrics department at Willis-Knighton Health System in Shreveport, serving as staff president and chief of staff during his tenure. He is a diplomat of the American Board of Obstetrics and a fellow of the American College of Surgeons and Gynecology as well as a member of the Southern Medical Association, Central Association of



Board of Regents member Scott Brame of Alexandria made the presentation of \$160,000 in matching funds for 4 endowed professorships to Northwestern President Randall Webb. The Board of Regents also gave \$40,000 in matching funds for an endowed scholarship.

Obstetrics and Gynecology, and the Royale Society of Medicine, London. He maintained an active OB/GYN practice in Shreveport until his retirement in 1998. Talbot understood the importance of preserving the history of the hospital, doctors and staff since 1927 and with the help of friends and colleagues, assembled a variety of historic pictures, instruments and other artifacts and opened a museum as a way of recognizing the progress and development of the health system over the years. The museum was named in his honor.

The Durr Professorship was created through a partnership among graduates of the business department from classes of 1959, 1960 and 1961 to honor Durr, who provided them with a foundation of knowledge beneficial to their careers. Durr graduated from Marthaville High School in 1933 and earned a B.S. at Louisiana State Normal College in 1939. He earned a master's at George Peabody College in 1947 and a doctorate at Indiana University in 1963. He taught high school at Marthaville High, Robeline High, Allen High, St. Mary's and West Hartford, Conn., High. He then spent 35 years teaching accounting at the university level in Louisiana and Texas, teaching at Northwestern, Northeast Louisiana University, Texas Women's University and Stephen F. Austin.

N Club Inductees



The Graduate N Club, the association of athletic letterwinners at Northwestern, enshrined four all-time standouts into the Graduate N Club Hall of Fame during Homecoming activities last fall. Honored were golfer Bob Konsdorf, softball pitcher Kellie Shotwell, football star and track All-American Al Edwards, and football and baseball standout Steve Graf.

Demons GSR ranking shows athletes' commitment to academics

Northwestern State again sparkled in the annual release of the NCAA's Graduation Success Rates (GSR) study, with the documents showing NSU is Louisiana's second-highest ranking public institution in the 2009 report. Northwestern posted an overall 73 percent GSR score, second among the state's public institutions and trailing only Centenary and Tulane (tied at 84 percent), and Southeastern Louisiana (76 percent) among the state's 13 NCAA Division I athletics programs. That score also placed Northwestern third among the 12 Southland Conference member institutions, topped only by a 78 percent GSR score by Texas A&M-Corpus Christi and SLU's 76 percent.

Three of Northwestern's 10 sports groups (women's basketball, soccer and women's tennis) ranked first among their Southland Conference peers in the 2009 report released in October by the NCAA. Lady Demon softball and tennis had the best GSR scores in their sports among any state schools.

The NCAA developed the GSR in response to the Federal Graduation Rate, which does not take into account the mobility among college student-athletes while measuring graduating rates. The GSR scores include students transferring into the institutions and allows outgoing transfers to be discounted if they leave in good academic standing. "The fact that so many NSU teams

are again positioned so prominently in this most recent GSR report, when compared to other Southland Conference and state of Louisiana athletic programs, is a continuing testimony that our Athletic Department focus on academic success is paying dividends," said director of athletics Greg Burke.

Northwestern was one of five state-supported institutions to post a GSR score of 70 percent or better: Southeastern (76 percent), NSU (73), New Orleans (72), LSU (71) and McNeese (70).

Northwestern ranked in the upper third of the 12-team SLC in seven of its 10 sports groupings. NSU was in the upper fourth of the state's 13 Division I programs in seven of 10 sports groups.

Five of the six women's sports at Northwestern ranked either first or second in the SLC: basketball (1), track and field (2), soccer (1), softball (2) and tennis (1).

The Lady Demon tennis program posted a perfect 100 percent score for the second straight year.

Also posting or equaling the highest GSR scores in their history were men's cross country track and field (80 percent), women's soccer (86 percent), baseball (74 percent), and football (55 percent).

The 2009 report is based on the four entering freshmen classes in Division I athletics from 1999-00 through 2002-03. It's the seventh year that the NCAA has collected GSR data.

Athletics unveils new slogan

Celebrating more than a century filled with accomplishments and anticipating much more success ahead, the Northwestern State Athletic Department has adopted a new slogan - **"Great Tradition - Brighter Future."**

"The slogan is an avenue through which the athletic program can pay tribute to the countless individual and team milestones at Northwestern State over the years and, at the same time, set a tone for the student-athletes and coaches of today to carry forward that tradition by creating their own memorable moments," said athletics director Greg Burke.

"We will have the new athletic slogan displayed and utilized in numerous ways. I invite everyone in the NSU family - students, faculty, staff, alumni, and supporters -- to join us in celebrating the 'Great Tradition' of NSU Athletics," said Burke, "and to also join us as we look forward to and create a much anticipated 'Brighter Future.'" Each of Northwestern's nine sports groupings will have many of its historic achievements commemorated on the www.nsudemons.com website.

Intercollegiate athletics began at Northwestern, then Louisiana Normal College, in 1907 with a football game against Louisiana Polytechnic College, now Louisiana Tech. That contest took place at least three years after Normal's football team began playing against area clubs and high school teams, some 20 years after the university was founded in 1884. The first intercollegiate basketball game took place in 1913, and Normal also competed in baseball and women's basketball in that era. Track and field, swimming and gymnastics were among other early sports on campus.

Normal adopted the nickname "Demons" for its athletic teams in 1923 as the result of a campus-wide contest. Some of the nicknames suggested included the Daredevils, Boosters, Sharks, Cannons, Deers, Muskateers, Invincibles, Cyclops,

Royalists, Bloodhounds, Cannon Balls, Wasps and Rattlesnakes. The other finalist was "Braves" but a student vote chose "Demons."

Those were the origins of an athletic program that has produced eight All-Pro football stars, including current Buffalo Bills standout Terrence McGee and Pro Football Hall of Fame member Jackie Smith; three USA Olympic athletes (gymnast Richard Loyd, track and field competitors LaMark Carter and Kenta Bell) and a USA Olympic head coach (Dr. Gayle Hatch, men's weightlifting, 2004); an NBA first-round draft pick (Johnny McConathy, 1951) and current NBA player Trey Gilder (Memphis Grizzlies), and the only player in NCAA Division I basketball history, man or woman, to lead the nation in assists for three straight years (Lady Demon point guard Cooda Dobin, 2002-04).

Houston Tailgate Party



Alumni and friends who attended the Sept. 5 Houston tailgate party were, Sue Tucker Kimball (1952) and Suzanne Johnson (1961) with Kirk Kimball and Roger Johnson (1962), left photo; Chad (1995) and Heather (1995) Barrios with daughter, Elise, 4, and sons Hayden, 7, and Grant, 9, center photo, and Jack Brittain (1979), John Breland (1978), Richard Karamatic (1976) and Lynda Breland (1977).

Baylor Tailgate Party



Alumni and friends gathering for the Baylor tailgate were Nan Holmes (1980), Charlotte Holmes Ortegon (1991) and Casey Whaley, Brian Whaley (2000), Gene Tennison (2002) and Brad Reid.

Nicholls Tailgate Party



Rhonda Hernandez, Dina Stamey (1992) and Darlene McEwee were among the devoted Demon fans who traveled to Thibodaux to see the NSU Demons take on the Nicholls Colonels on Nov. 14.

Stroll down memory lane

I attended Northwestern State College in Natchitoches in the early 1950s and lived in one of four one story renovated army barracks. They were referred to as A-Frame through D-Frame. B-Frame was my home away from home and had an apartment in one end for a college employee who was overseer for all of the Frames. His name was Hal Townsend, and he was from Kaplan.

In B-Frame there were maybe eight or 10 individual rooms equipped with bunk beds, two desks, two open closets (no doors) one lavatory and some built in drawers. There was one large room that had showers and other facilities. The other frames had no apartment, thus, more rooms.

For most of my college years I was "Monitor" in B-Frame. My job was to assure that life there was conducive to study and sleep, to report any maintenance needs and to see to it that rowdiness and destructive behavior were held to a minimum. Being such a small group of students helped to make my job fairly easy. I only remember one occasion when I had to "give a resident a talking to." He had an air horn and air tank similar to those on 18-wheelers.

I received \$22.50 per month credit toward the \$45 per month room and meals. Most students had some kind of employment to help with school expenses. One guy washed and waxed cars outside the dorm. One guy cut hair. One was a saxophone player in the student dance band.

One of the traditional practices at the beginning of each new semester was the shaving of freshman heads. However, some creativity was shown with various cut styles from Mohawk to stripe, to



leaving a ring of hair around the ears or elsewhere.

The residents of B-Frame were almost like family. We participated in intramural sports together, we sometimes walked the mile plus to see movies in downtown Natchitoches together and we usually ate together at the college cafeteria.

I had several roommates over the years. My first was a classmate from high school. He quit after the first summer. I later heard that he owned a liquor store. Two of my roommates, J. C. Reed and Ted Booty, became principals. J. C. retired and sold cars for Radford Buick in Lake Charles for a time. Another roommate (Bill Shaw) and I took some courses together toward our doctoral degrees at the University of Missouri in Columbia. He later became head of the department from which we earned our undergraduate degrees at Northwestern. We also taught in the same department at the Missouri School of Mines and Metallurgy (now the U of M, Rolla).

I retired from McNeese after teaching in the engineering and technology programs for 38 years (plus one year as a VL).

Don Ellett
Lake Charles

Alumni Updates

1933

Joe Pugh Durham is retired and lives in West Monroe.

1965

Douglas Glynn Beach is a retired teacher and lives in Wisner.

1966

Ruth-Anne Eileen Hoffstadt Hammons is a retired teacher, married and lives in Gretna.

1967

Martha Ann Williams Palmer is a part-time desk nurse at Dermatology Physicians-Lancaster, Pa., married and lives in Ronks, Pa.

1968

Lewis S. Odom is the owner, president, landman of Claiborne Land Services, Inc., married and lives in Homer.

1969

Carol Sue (Suzy) Hames is an occupational therapist at Health South of Alexandria and lives in Alexandria.

1970

Richard (Rickey) L. French is a retired principal and lives in Arlington, Texas

Patricia Frazier Schwartz is retired, married and lives in Benton.

J. Dexter Smith is a retired supervisor for the Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry, Office of

Animal Health, Meat Inspection Section.

1971

Mary Cathy Bankston DeLee is retired and lives in Ethel.

1973

Kathryn Lum Todd is employed by Katy Independent School District as a counselor and lives in Katy, Texas.

Virginia (Ginger) Diane Thiels is a retired teacher and presently employed as long-term substitute teacher with Zachary community schools and lives in Zachary.

1978

Stephanie J. Davitt Bange is the education resource center director at Wright State University, College of Education and Human Services. She is married and lives in Dayton, Ohio.

Dannie Azlin is employed by Natchitoches Parish School Board as a teacher, married and lives in Campti.

1982

Angela Cecilia Guillory is an assistant dean and director of Greek life at LSU and lives in Baton Rouge.

1983

Linda D. Miguez Hunter is a safety/recruiting director at Spring Valley Cartage, married and lives in Garland, Texas.

1985

Mike H. Packard is a band director at White-water Middle School, married and lives in Fort Mill, S.C.

1989

Edgar Keith Cooper is dean of students, football, track coach, married and lives in Camden, Ark.

1991

Julie Lynne Brokmeyer is a family nurse practitioner at University Hospital of New Mexico/Family Practice Clinic and lives in Albuquerque, N.M.

1994

Dr. Christine Marie Hubbard Butler is employed by Conroe ISD as a principal, married to James Butler ('96) and lives in Spring, Texas.

1998

Ryan Keith Bundy is an energy consultant at Alternative Power Systems and lives in Peoria Ill.

2003

Melissa Ann Champion is employed with the Louisiana Department of Social Services as an assistant to the deputy secretary and lives in Port Allen.

2009

Kimberly Dawn Renz Roberson is employed by Katy Independent School District as a registered nurse, married to Cade Roberson ('91) and lives in Katy, Texas.

Why I Love NSU

"As a 1960 graduate of NSC, my years on campus were a great experience for a Cajun from the bayou country. My roommate at the time was Dub Carson and we resided in the brickshack. Dub later left NSC to become a minister and we are still the best of friends. The key to NSC is that lasting friendships were formed and maintained through the years. Just to mention a few that come to mind are Ted Roberts, Jim Tuma, Roy Fair, Larry Rice and Earl Nolan. This special year will always be remembered by this band of brothers."

— Norbert Paul Vincent

*For more Alumni Updates
please visit our website:
www.northwesternalumni.com*

In Memory

1949 – Rev. Roy Remont, July 21, 2009

1947, 1951 – Max Webster Pugh,
Nov. 7, 2009, Marksville

1950 – Horace A. Corley, June 9, 2009

1950 – Frank D. Lassiter, August 16, 2009,
Jena

1985 - Jim Edward Bridges, Nov. 30, 2009,
Ft. Wayne, Ind.

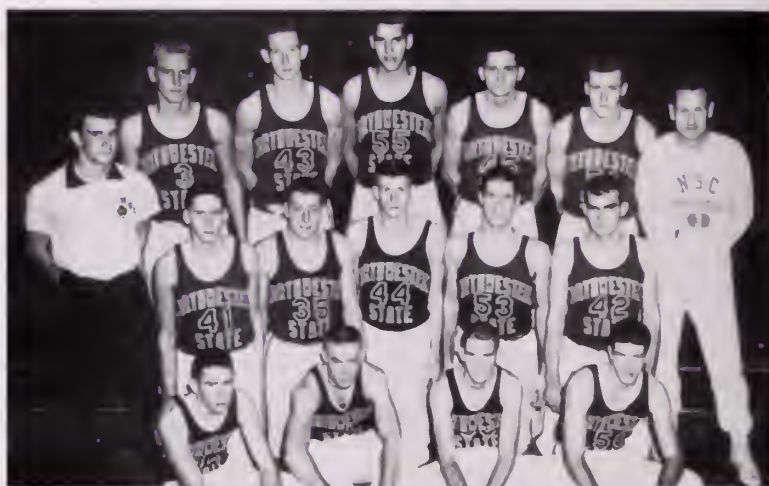
1988 - Barbara Selby Fry, Sept. 30, 2009,
Pollock



LOOKING BACK



Mickey Crnkovic drove in for two points during an overtime victory against Louisiana Tech that clinched a share of the Gulf States Conference Championship.



Seated from left are Larry Skinner, Jimmy Leach, Pete Walpole and Lovick Johnson. Kneeling are Richard Pullig, Larry Williams, Bill Stewart, Paul Flinn and Phillip Haley. Standing are Benny Arthur, manager; Elvin McCann, Jimmy Adkins, Larry Fontenot, Mickey Crnkovic, Bobby Wicker and Coach Huey Cranford.

Northwestern State College witnessed a great example of team spirit, hustle and a desire to win in 1958 when, picked to finish second in the division, the Demon basketball team won the co-championship of the Gulf States Conference. Coach Huey Cranford had only seven returning lettermen and one returning squadman and even with the addition of six freshmen newcomers, prospects were not bright for the team.

The biggest game of the season was played against Louisiana Tech in Ruston, a game in which the football team gathered in uniform to send off their fellow Demons. The Demons came from behind a 20 point Bulldog lead to drub Tech 72-66 in an overtime win that gained them a share of the GSC championship.

The Demons sported the best season records for the conference in team offense, free throws and rebounds. The overall season record was 20-7. Jimmy Leach and Mickey Crnkovic were named to the Louisiana Sports Writers Association's all-GSC first team and received Little All-American Honorable Mention. Bobby Wicker was named on the all-GSC third team and Coach Cranford was named LSWA Coach of the Year.

Guess Who?

A campus-wide vote, sponsored by the Student Union Governing Board, elected this coed Winter Ball Queen in 1974. The selection was based on service to the school, leadership and scholastic standing. Can you name her and the Union Director who congratulated her? The first five alumni to call the Alumni Center at (318) 357-4414 with the correct answers will win a prize.

Congratulations to **Shearon Guidry (63)** and **Karen Anne Guidroz (89)** who correctly identified the 1985 Homecoming Court. They were Reatha Cole, Michaela Sampite, Yvette Jordan, Patti Smiley, Queen Theresa Guillory, Rachel Heider, Amy Whitford, Tammy Collins and Melissa Hightower.





Alumni Updates

Visit our website at
www.northwesternalumni.com
and click on "Update our files"
or use this printed form.

Please fill this page out as completely as possible. We are constantly revising our records and your information updates are vital to making the system work. The information from this form is also used for entries in the "Alumni Updates" section. Please make a copy of this page and give it to any NSU graduate who may not be on our list. We can't keep in touch with you if we can't find you! Thank you.

Date _____

Name: (Miss, Mrs. Mr.) _____

Please Circle

Last

First

Middle

Maiden

Current address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

NSU undergraduate degree(s): _____ Year of graduation: _____

NSU graduate degree(s): _____ Year of graduation: _____

During which years did you attend NSU? _____

Which organizations were you involved in while a student at NSU? _____

Place of employment _____

Job title: _____ Work phone: _____

Spouse's name: _____

Is your spouse an NSU graduate? ____ Yes ____ No

If yes, what degree(s) did he / she earn?

Spouse's undergraduate degree (s) _____ Year of graduation _____

Spouse's graduate degree (s) _____ Year of graduation _____

Do you have children who are potential Northwestern students?

Please tell us their names, contact information, and what high school they attend.

Please return to: Alumni Center • Northwestern State University • Natchitoches, LA 71497

If you would like information from Admissions, Financial Aid or the NSU Athletic Association, you can contact them at the following address:

University Recruiting

South Hall
Natchitoches, LA 71497
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